



Introduced Version

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. ____

Introduced by: Richardson, Friend

A HOUSE RESOLUTION honoring Representative Jeff Espich.

Whereas, Representative Jeff Espich, who was first elected to represent the citizens of House District 82 in 1972, will be leaving the House Chamber for the last time at the end of the 2012 legislative session;

Whereas, During his years in the House of Representatives, Representative Espich has served as Chairman of the Labor Committee and Chairman of the Commerce Committee as well as serving on the Courts and Criminal Code Committee; Insurance, Corporations and Small Business Committee; the Welfare Reform Interim Study Committee; and the Real Property Assessment Practices Interim Study Committee;

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Whereas, Representative Espich has also served as a member, Ranking Minority Member, and Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee;

Whereas, Representative Espich has been a member of leadership serving as Minority Whip, Assistant Minority Leader, and Speaker Pro Tempore;

Whereas, Representative Espich was appointed as an advisor to the Stadium and Convention Building Authority Committee that was responsible for supervising the construction of the new Colts Stadium and the expansion of the Indiana Convention Center;

Whereas, Governor Frank O'Bannon appointed Representative Espich to the Citizens' Commission on Taxes, which was charged with reviewing Indiana's property tax system and submitting recommendations to ease the tax burden on Indiana residents;

Whereas, Since 1996, Representative Espich has been a member of the State Budget Committee, which is responsible for oversight of state appropriations and developing budget recommendations to submit to the Governor and currently serves as Chairman;

Whereas, In 2005, while serving as Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Representative Espich authored the first honestly balanced biennial state budget in over a decade, and as a result of his fiscal leadership, Indiana was able to repay \$500 million in debt owed to K-12 schools;

Whereas, Representative Espich has always been dedicated to serving his constituents and throughout his years of service, he gained a great deal of expertise in the area of tax and fiscal matters;

Whereas, Representative Espich recognized the importance of limited government regulation and taxation and worked to create a climate favorable for strong economic growth;



Whereas, Representative Espich has been the recipient of many awards during his tenure, including the Guardian of Small Business Award and the Legislator of the Year Award;

Whereas, Representative Espich is a United States Army veteran, a small business owner, a member of the Bluffton Chamber of Commerce, a Director of the State Bank of Markle, and a member of the Uniondale Volunteer Fire Department and holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Indiana University-Bloomington;

Whereas, Representative Espich has many interests and hobbies, and residents in the Wells County area appreciate his elaborate Christmas decorations, many of which he designed and constructed;

Whereas, Representative Espich and his wife reside in Uniondale and are members of the Uniondale United Methodist Church;

Whereas, Representative Jeff Espich has served his constituency loyally and faithfully since his election to the Indiana General Assembly: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives bids a
2 fond farewell to Representative Jeff Espich. The House of
3 Representatives has seen only good things during his tenure.
4 Legislators and staff alike will miss him greatly. His departure will
5 leave a void that will never be truly filled.

6 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
7 Representatives transmit copies of this resolution to Representative Jeff
8 Espich and his family.

